

IN THE CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) A method for re-booting an operating system software in
2 a data processing system, comprising the steps of:

3 determining whether a buffer contains a message indicating that a BIOS
4 image for the data processing system was previously updated;

5 performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image; ~~and~~

6 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
7 verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image;

8 not proceeding with the re-boot of the operating system software if the
9 signature verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image;

10 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and

11 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the
12 update to the BIOS image.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

1 4. (original) A data processing system comprising:

2 means for performing an update to the BIOS image;

3 means for storing a message into a memory location wherein the message
4 indicates that the BIOS image has been updated;

5 during a subsequent re-boot of the data processing system, means for
6 determining an existence of the message;

1 responsive to a determination that the message is stored in the memory
2 location, means for performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS
3 image; and

4 means for proceeding with the re-boot of the data processing system if the
5 signature verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 5. (original) The system as recited in claim 4, further comprising:

2 means for not proceeding with the re-boot of the data processing system if the
3 signature verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 6. (currently amended) A computer program product adaptable for storage on a
2 computer readable medium and operable for re-booting an operating system software
3 in a data processing system, comprising the program steps of:

4 determining whether a buffer in the data processing system contains a
5 message indicating that a BIOS image for the data processing system was previously
6 updated;

7 responsive to a determination that the buffer contains the message indicating
8 that the BIOS image for the data processing system was previously updated,
9 performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image; and

10 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
11 verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image;

12 not proceeding with the re-boot of the operating system software if the
13 signature verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image;

14 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and

1 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the
2 update to the BIOS image.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

1 9. (new) A method for re-booting an operating system software in a data
2 processing system, comprising the steps of:
3 determining whether a buffer contains a message indicating that a BIOS
4 image for the data processing system was previously updated;
5 performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image;
6 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
7 verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image;
8 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and
9 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the
10 update to the BIOS image.

1 10. (new) A computer program product adaptable for storage on a computer
2 readable medium and operable for re-booting an operating system software in a data
3 processing system, comprising the program steps of:
4 determining whether a buffer in the data processing system contains a
5 message indicating that a BIOS image for the data processing system was previously
6 updated;

1 responsive to a determination that the buffer contains the message indicating
2 that the BIOS image for the data processing system was previously updated,
3 performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image;
4 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
5 verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image;
6 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and
7 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the
8 update to the BIOS image.